

Message Text

SECRET

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TAGS: TECH PARM US UK IAEA

SUBJ: REPORT OF DISCUSSION BETWEEN USAEC AND UK REPS JAN 14 & 20

1. THIS IS TO REPORT RESULTS OF MEETINGS BETWEEN R.T. DUFF, USAEC, AND UK REPS IN LONDON JANUARY 14, 1975. PURPOSE OF MEETING IN UK WAS TO GAIN BRITISH VIEWS OF PNE AND RELATED MATTERS. TWO MEETINGS WERE HELD ON JANUARY 14, ONE AT MOD AND SECOND AT FOREIGN OFFICE. UK REPS CONFIRMED IN BOTH MEETINGS INTENT TO SPONSOR A RESOLUTION IN IAEA FOR A PNE COMMITTEE. TONE OF UK STATEMENTS NEGATIVE TO PNE. UK COMMITTEE RESOLUTION WAS REPORTED TO BE A MEANS OF SHOWING PROGRESS ON SUPPORT OF ARTICLE V AT NPT REVIEW CONFERENCE IN MAY, AT SAME TIME ESTABLISHING EFFECTIVE BUREAUCRATIC BARRIER TO OTHER PNE PROPOSALS.

2. AT UK MEETING IN FOREIGN OFFICE, FRED BROWN, MINISTRY OF ENERGY, REVIEWED UK POSITION ON US AIDE MEMOIRE RE MULTILATERAL NUCLEAR SUPPLIERS CONFERENCE. HE EMPHASIZED THAT PRACTICAL MEASURES TO IMPLEMENT US POINTS WERE DIFFICULT TO ACHIEVE. HE WAS PARTICULARLY NEGATIVE ON MULTI-NATIONAL REPROCESSING PLANT CONCEPT, STATING: 1) NO COUNTRY WOULD ACCEPT NUCLEAR WASTES FOR OTHERS, AND 2) THERE IS NO WAY OF REFUSING A REPROCESSING PLANT TO A SINGLE COUNTRY IF THEY AGREE TO SAFEGUARD MEASURES REQUIRED. UK REP STRONGLY URGED THAT US CONSIDER CANADIAN PRO-

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POSAL AND SUGGESTED POSSIBILIGY OF US, UK, CANADIAN TRILATERAL

DISCUSSION OF MULTILATERAL SUPPLIERS CONFERENCE.

3. SUBJECT OF REGIONAL REPROCESSING WAS RAISED AGAIN IN MY MEETING JANUARY 17 WITH JOHN THOMSON. I EXPRESSED HOPE THAT UK VIEWS CONTAINED PARA 2 DID NOT MEAN THAT UK WOULD AT THIS STAGE ATTEMPT DASH COLD WATER ON FURTHER AGENCY STUDY OF THE SUBJECT. UK RES REP (JACKSON) SAID THAT AT DECEMBER SAC MEETING HE HAD DELIVERED A STATEMENT, ON INSTRUCTIONS, NOTING THAT HMG CONSIDERED REGIONAL REPROCESSING AN IMPORTANT TOPIC WHICH MERITED SERIOUS CONSIDERATION. THOMSON THEN OBSERVED THAT IT WAS A COMPLICATED SUBJECT AND THAT THERE WAS NO FIRM POSITION ON IT WITHIN HMG. HE, HOWEVER, COMPLETELY SUPPORTED AGENCY PROCEEDING WITH ITS STUDY OF THE MATTER. IN CONVERSATION WITH DUFF JANUARY 20, JACKSON AGAIN SAID THAT UK OFFICIAL POSITION, PARTICULARLY IN REGARD TO REGIONAL REPROCESSING, WAS NOT AS NEGATIVE AS HAD BEEN INDICATED JANUARY 14. PORTER

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